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WORLD SOYBEAN PRODUCTION The world soybean production in 1984/85 is now forecast at 91.8 million tons, a drop of 1.9 million from last month, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The U.S. soybean production forecast was reduced 1.5 million tons as yield estimates were reduced to 29.5 bushels per acre, primarily because of poorer prospects in the Southeast and the Western Corn Belt. There's a 1.8 million ton increase in carryin stocks in the U.S. The 1983 U.S. soybean crop was revised upward by 1.9 million tons to 44.5 million tons.

OILSEED SUPPLIES The estimate of 1984/85 world production of oilseeds fell 1.1 million tons to 184.9 million tons this month, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Improved production prospects outside of the United States partially offset a 1.7-million-ton decline in U.S. oilseed production. World soybean production in 1984/85 is not expected to exceed the 1982/83 record, but will still be nearly 10 million tons higher than 1983/84. Record production is forecast for oilseeds other than soybeans, which are now projected to exceed 1983/84 by 8.5 million tons.

PRICE DECLINE FOR OILSEEDS In Sept., prices for a number of oilseeds and meals continued to decline, but at generally slower rates, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The continued downward pressure reflects: Larger than expected reported U.S. soybean stocks on Sept. 1; reduced U.S. hog numbers; sharply reduced export demand for U.S. soybeans; and further strength in the value of the U.S. dollar.

LOW CORN STOCKS Corn stocks are lowest since 1976, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Stocks of old crop corn in all positions on Oct. 1, 1984, totaled 18.3 million metric tons, 77 pct. below the record high Oct. 1 stocks of last year. Stocks of feed grains--corn, sorghum, oats, and barley--at 44.3 million metric tons, were down 59 pct. from a year ago. Wheat stocks totaled 74.1 million metric tons, down 8 pct. from last year.

CORN GLUTEN FROM BRAZIL According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, a Brazilian trade newspaper reported that the European Community plans to restrict imports of corn gluten from Brazil to 2 pct. of corn gluten feed imports, which reached 3.9 million tons last year.

U.S., CANADA
TO MEET AGAIN

The U.S. and Canada will hold twice yearly agricultural trade meetings, according to Sec'y of Agriculture John Block. The next meeting will be this coming spring at a location near the eastern U.S.-Canadian border, with the following meeting at a city in the West.

U.S. SOYBEAN
OIL EXPORT

U.S. exports of soybean oil are forecast slightly higher this month, at 680,000 tons in 1984/85 but this is still down 12 pct. from 1983/84, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This 1984/85 reduction will be offset by larger shipments from Brazil and Argentina. World 1984/85 exports of soybean oil are forecast to remain at last year's level. The U.S. will see increased competition from Argentina in 1984/85.

OILSEED &
PRODUCT TRADE

World oilseed and product trade prospects improved this month, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. World export estimates were increased for soybeans (U.S. and Brazil), rapeseed (the EC), and sunflowerseed (U.S.). These three products are expected to account for virtually all of the increase in 1984/85 world oilseed trade.

CORN IN
STORAGE

Of the total corn stocks on Oct. 1, 1984, 48 pct. or 347 million bushels (8.81 million metric tons), were stored on the farm and 52 pct. or 375 million bushels (9.53 million metric tons), were stored off the farm, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Indicated disappearance during the June-Sept. period was 1.42 billion bushels (36.1 million metric tons), down 21 pct. from a comparable period last year. For the marketing year, exports were fractionally higher than last year...food, processing and seed use, up 9 pct...feed and residual, down about 18 pct.

WHEAT IN
STORAGE

All wheat stored in all positions on Oct. 1, 1984, totaled 2.72 billion bushels (74.1 million metric tons), 8 pct. less than the 2.96 billion bushels (80.4 million metric tons) stored on Oct. 1 a year ago, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Farm stocks of 1.20 billion bushels (32.7 million metric tons) accounted for 44 pct. of the total. Wheat stored off-farms totaled 1.52 billion bushels (41.5 million metric tons). Farm stocks are 3 pct. below Oct. 1, 1983, while off-farm stocks are down 11 pct. from last year. The June-Sept. disappearance stands at 1.24 billion bushels (33.9 million metric tons), compared with 980 million bushels (26.7 million metric tons) during the same period a year ago. Figures imply a higher feed usage.

CATTLE ON
FEED UP

Cattle and calves on feed Oct. 1, 1984, for slaughter market in the 13 quarterly States reporting, totaled 9 million head, 6 pct. more than last year and 2 pct. above 1982, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Placements of cattle and calves on feed during the July-Sept. quarter totaled 6.24 million, 12 pct. more than the same quarter a year ago and 7 pct. above the comparable period in 1982.

TURNING A
SOYBEAN ON
AND OFF

Scientists at the U.S. Department of Agriculture have discovered a way to turn a gene in soybeans on and off and say the research could lead to increased nutritional value in soybeans and other legumes. The nutritional value of soybeans and other legumes is now limited by low amounts of the amino acid, methionine. The new discovery opens the way to raising the methionine content of soybean protein, making it a more nutritionally complete food.

FROM OUR TELEVISION
SERVICE

"World Food Situation"...USDA economist Richard Kennedy focuses on some of the problems and progress encountered over the years in meeting world food demands. Jim Johnson interviews. (236)

"World Food Day - Women in Development"...Arlene Mitchell, Office of International Cooperation and Development, talks about the highlights of the recent symposium on "Women in Agriculture" in commemoration of World Food Day. DeBoria Janifer interviews. (237)

"Pseudorabies Project Evaluation"...USDA veterinarian Dr. Dan Sheesley comments on the evaluation project being conducted in five states to eliminate pseudorabies from swine herds. DeBoria Janifer interviews. (238)

"National Forest Products Week"...Dale Robertson, Associate Chief, Forest Service, talks about the many contributions made by our nation's forestland in honor of National Forest Products Week. Victor Powell interviews. (239)

"The Strong Dollar"...USDA economist Art Morey talks about the advantages and disadvantages of the strong dollar in the U.S. and how it affects our trade situation with other countries. Dave Carter interviews. (240)

MEAT OUTPUT
FOR '84

The total meat output for 1984 is expected to total about 55.4 billion pounds, up nearly 1 pct. from both a year earlier and from the Oct. 12 estimate, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For 1985, total meat output may total around 55.2 billion pounds, down slightly from the expected 1984 level but up a little from Oct. 12. The major changes in meat output are in the beef sector. The number of cattle on feed at the beginning of Oct. was up 6 pct. from a year ago. For all of 1984, beef production may be up almost 2 pct. from a year earlier.

WEED CAUSE
CATTLE
ABORTIONS?

A common weed is a prime suspect in abortions that strike cattle in southern states in the spring, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A team of four scientists, with the USDA and Texas A&M Univ., identified narrowleaf sumpweed as almost certainly the cause of bovine abortion in several herds in Louisiana and Texas.

FIVE YEARS
WITHOUT
INTEREST

Under the plan announced recently by President Reagan for farmers experiencing serious financial difficulty, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration can set aside up to 25 percent--to a maximum of \$200,000--of a borrower's debt for five years without interest. For non-FmHA borrowers, the agency can guarantee up to 90 pct. of a loan if the lender is willing to write off a minimum of 10 pct. of the debt.

109 COUNTIES
IN FARM CREDIT
PROGRAMS

One hundred nine counties in five states will take part in the initial phase of the program in which the Farmers Home Admin. will contract for outside assistance in servicing FmHA farm loans, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The program, one of the farm credit initiatives recently announced by President Reagan, will be carried out in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska.

OFF MIKE

It continually amazes me how time flies and seemingly far off events are suddenly just around the corner. Such is the case, at least at this end, of the upcoming NAFB meeting in Kansas City, Nov. 8-11. By the time you read this it will be time to leave for the airport... almost. Johnnie Hood (WPTF, Southern Farm Net, Raleigh, NC) is the program chairman this year and all indications so far point toward an excellent program. See you there! ... Bryce Anderson (WOWT, Omaha, NE) is the proud owner of an AK-SAR-BEN gold medal for his series of stories on the farm economy, "The Farm Recession: A Deepening Crisis." Those of you who attended the summer meeting know that AK-SAR-BEN is Nebraska spelled backwards and is a special organization in Nebraska involved in agriculture among other things. Our congratulations to Bryce! ... Speaking of honors, here's another. We've learned that Dink "Colonel" Embry (WHOP, Hopkinsville, KY) will be the Parade Marshall for the 1984 Hopkinsville Christmas Parade ... Bill Ray (Agrinet Farm Net, Richmond, VA) reports he will have all his 54 radio affiliates hooked up on satellite by the end of the month. The stations are in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware ... We're a little slow in reporting the following, but better late than never. Here are the results of the 1984 American Farm Bureau Federation Information Awards program: Best TV program, Jimmy Lee, GA; Radio news, large state, Joseph Deiss, VA, small state, Vic Saunders, UT; TV news, Jack Garrett, IL; Radio PSA's, large state, Lou Hansen, Ill, small state, Erik Ness, NM; TV PSA, Richard Prether, PA; Best Radio Program, large state, Denny Banister, MO, small state, Vic Saunders, UT; and Best Radio Commentary/Editorial, Dennis Vercler, IL ... We received some very bad pork belly puns from Lew Middleton (WQHK, Fork Wayne, IN) but we're not sure you are up to them yet, so we'll wait until next week. But to sorta get you ready, here's a parting short from Johnnie Martin (Ohio Farm Bureau, Columbus): "Did you hear about the calf that walked up to the silo and asked, 'Is my fodder in there?'" Sorry 'bout that.

FROM OUR RADIO
SERVICE

AGRICULTURE USA #1430...(Weekly 13½ min documentary) Brenda Curtis travels to North Carolina where she visits a "Festival of Skills."

AGRITAPE/FARM PROGRAM REPORT #1419...(Weekly reel of news features) USDA news highlights; 1984 commodity program eligibility factors; Future for U.S. farm exports, a mixed bag; Farm credit initiative; The great stand-off.

CONSUMER TIME #912...(Weekly reel of five 2½-3 min features) How do we age?; Zinc-a-do's and zinc-a-don'ts; Students aid communities; Saving the grizzly; Tree hunters.

USDA RADIO NEWS SERVICE...Tues, Nov. 6, Weekly weather and crop report; Agricultural outlook; Fri, Nov. 9, World crop production and Crop production reports. Dial the USDA National News Lines 202/488-8358 or 8359. All material changed at 5 p.m. EST each working day.


JAMES L. JOHNSON
Chief, Radio-Television Division